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LEGACY OF PARKS



George Washington Memorial Parkway

McLean, Virginia

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10 am August 16, 1971

Legacy of Parks

In his message to the Congress on the Environment, President Nixon proposed a major new program to provide a Legacy of Parks that "truly brings parks to the people" by helping "states and local governments provide parks and recreation areas, not just for today's Americans but for tomorrow's as well. Only if we set aside and develop such recreation areas now can we ensure that they will be available for future generations."

The Legacy of Parks program, combined with the Property Review Board which the President established last year to make fuller recommendations concerning which Federal lands could be better utilized if they were opened to the public, establishes for the first time a coordinated effort to provide for open space acquisition and development, beautification of urban environs, and historic preservation activities.

In essence, Legacy of Parks program represents the Administration's continuing effort to identify underutilized Federal real property and return it to the public for their increased use and enjoyment, thus furthering the President's commitment to provide "a growing legacy of parks and recreational facilities that will benefit all Americans."

Prelude Music

The Wolf Trap American University
Academy Orchestra and Chorus

Director of the Academy - Eugene B. Kassman
Choral Conductor - Geoffrey Simon
Orchestra Conductor - Frederick Fennell

Invocation

The Reverend Alan Gardner
Pastor of the McLean Bible Church
McLean, Virginia

"America the Beautiful"

Master of Ceremonies

The Honorable Arnold R. Weber
Chairman,
The President's Property Review Board

Welcoming Remarks

Mr. Ben H. Bolen
Commissioner of Parks,
State of Virginia

Introduction of Distinguished Guests

Address

The Honorable John Ehrlichman
Assistant to the President for Domestic Affairs

Presentation of Certificate of Transfer

MRS. RICHARD NIXON
to
Mr. George B. Hartzog, Jr.
Director, National Park Service

"Ye Shall Have A Song" from "The Peaceable Kingdom"
by Randall Thompson

Today's ceremony in McLean, Virginia, marks another important step in President Nixon's ongoing Legacy of Parks program. The transfer of 230 acres in Fairfax County reflects the President's desire to establish more recreational and conservation areas near urban population centers.

The conveyance of this underutilized federal property represents the combined efforts and cooperative agreement of the Department of the Interior's National Park Service, the Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration, and the General Services Administration.

Accordingly, these 230 acres are being transferred to the George Washington Memorial Parkway as an adjunct for the Turkey Run recreational area, and will be used for camping, picnicking, hiking, and a myriad of public activities under the "Parks for All Seasons" program of the National Capital Parks.

This transfer of woodland and greensward under the Legacy of Parks program will provide a new source of enjoyment for this and future generations.